

Protection, Not Punishment, Her Aim

A POLICEMAN had just brought into the court room a frightened, defiant boy of eleven years whom he had caught swinging on the back end of a street car. The law had been violated.

The judge of the juvenile court heard the officer's report. The policeman told how he had caught the "prisoner" red-handed, swinging on the car, in open violation of a city ordinance.

Judge Camille (Mrs. T. F.) Kelley leaned forward over the great desk and in even, earnest tones, thanked the officer, on behalf of the court and the "dear" child's mother for his vigilance and protection in bringing the child in before the boy, through thoughtless indiscretion, had been unfortunate enough to lose a leg or his life.

The officer was dumfounded. The boy's face brightened. The officer had seen only the law violation. The boy had thought only of the punishment.

The officer, transformed into a hero, left the court room in a glow of self-satisfaction. The boy remained to learn from this remarkable woman judge of the new order of things—a court whose aim is protection, not punishment.

Judge Kelley, recently named juvenile judge at Memphis, Tennessee, is the first woman ever appointed to a judicial place in the South. She believes that the "children's hour has broken upon the world—that hour between the dark and the daylight" that is known as the children's hour, the dark of the past with its false ideas of child life and the daylight of the future with its visions of child psychology.

Parents, uncles, aunts and neighbors will no longer say "go see what the children are doing and tell them to stop," if they adopt the doctrine of this woman.

The idea of using a long series of don'ts as reminders to restless juveniles, in search of mischievous occupation—of something to do—has given way to the suggestion of right rather than wrong, and the supervised recreation on the playground with its wholesome expression of youthful spontaneity and force has taken the place of the tack in the teacher's chair and the competitive fight at recess where small victims give gruesome entertainment to larger boys.

Judge Kelley is the mother of three children. She has never been a suffragist but now that women have the right of full suffrage she hopes "that every woman will see her new enfranchisement as an open door offering her the opportunity to make better education a part of every political platform and a privilege toward getting better child welfare legislation."

"What part, in your opinion, does the juvenile court of today play in this scheme of reconstruction? Is the juvenile court the discipline of fear and punishment or the discipline of loving protection and teaching?" Judge Kelley has been asked.

"My concept of a juvenile court is a strong arm used to supplement home care and training, or to supply a home if it does not exist, and a place where parents may go for counsel, concerning the life problem of their child. It is the arm of protection that holds the child thought in correct channels until it is strong enough to stand alone; the protection of right training that heals the bruised concept of sin."

If it becomes absolutely necessary to send a child to a "reform school" Judge Kelley insists that the child know such a step is not taken as a punishment but rather as protection so that the child may be trained to a service to himself and the world.

Boys particularly, it seems to Memphis' new juvenile judge, face a lot of hard knocks which might be

avoided. Nor does she believe a little petting will make the boy a "mollycoddle."

Listen to this.

"Poor little old boys. I have always felt sorry for them. We tenderly shield our girls, but we push a 'mere' boy off into the 'shallow patch' to grow, saying the harder he takes life the sooner he will be able to become a man.

"A boy's heart starves for tenderness, and if mothers and fathers gave their boys more expressed love and tender consideration, they would not become 'unconscious' the first time a real, sweet, fresh, young girl crossed their path."

Judge Kelley thinks we have featured morals too strenuously. Instead she believes more emphasis should be given to education and recreation.

Mrs. Kelley has been "Judge Kelley" only a few months. The first month—May of this year—she handled 133 cases. In June there were 143 cases. Of this number, 77 were not placed on the records because they were "first appearance" cases and Judge Kelley has decreed that no record is to be made of such cases.

She does not seek to send as many children to the reformatory as she can, but she strives to save them from themselves. She does not seek to have the state, county and city train the children, but rather seeks to have the parents train the children with the court's support. In the case of orphans, she is particularly careful and has found good homes for a majority of the orphan children who have been before her court.

Children may enter her court in a stubborn resistant mood but they never leave it in that frame of mind.

Judge Kelley, a descendant of one of the state's oldest families, is a sister of the late Howard Hawthorne McGee, one of Tennessee's most loved and gifted poets.

She is well versed in child psychology. Her own children are fifteen, thirteen and ten years old, the two older being boys. During her absence from home the children, who of course have the supervision of a governess, have been taught to submit all disputes and difficulties to her over the telephone. Her decision in cases thus referred to her is final.

Mrs. Kelley, during the years when she could spend all of her time with the children, taught them to accept without argument her rulings, and now that the disputes reach her via the telephone rather than face to face, the children accept with equally good grace any decision she may reach. She gives an attentive ear to both sides of such problems and hands down an impartial decision. One of her first official acts was the abolition of uniforms for children in the reformatory school and the adoption of an honor system. Tale bearing is not tolerated. No officer or employee of the court is permitted under any circumstances to strike a child.

Prohibitive rules have been done away with. Instead, Judge Kelley has had printed a list of affirmative rules, telling the children many good things they may do. Children at the reformatory school are allowed to play and they are permitted to talk at meals. Improvement is more rapid and more certain under the new system and many apparently incorrigible children have been restored to homes within the period of a few weeks.

Just now Judge Kelley has a plan for the purchase by the city of a large lot opposite the juvenile court for the use of juvenile delinquents as a playground. Supervised recreation, she insists, will do more than any form of punishment.



MRS. T. F. KELLEY

A Strange Royal Gift

IN 1834 the emperor of Morocco, being in a repentant and conciliatory mood for having committed many misdeeds in his past, decided to atone for some of them by presenting to the United States certain tokens of his affection and good will. Accordingly, to the American consul at Tangier he gave two horses and a lion with the suggestion that they be forwarded to the President at the city of Washington.

With the "greatest pleasure" the worried consul accepted the horses and the lion. He was too much a diplomat to offend the emperor by refusing the gift; but he really did not feel equal to the occasion and assuredly did not relish the job of having them safely transported across the ocean. No cables connected him with his homeland, for the device for sending messages through water had not then been invented.

When the horses and the lion arrived at Washington, President Andrew Jackson and the members of his cabinet were a bit disconcerted. Then somebody had a happy thought that resulted in the matter being called to the attention of Congress. Strange to say, the eminent legislators displayed no disposition to hesitate; for early in February, 1835, they

"Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause the two horses received as a present by the consul of the United States at Tangier, from the emperor of Morocco, to be sold in Washington City, by public auction, on the last Saturday of February, 1835, and to cause the proceeds thereof to be placed in the Treasury of the United States; and that the lion received in like manner, be presented to such suitable institution, person or persons, as the President of the United States may designate." The resolution was approved February 13, 1835. Then the Secretary of State indited a letter to the emperor of Morocco expressing the great pleasure of the American Government and President Jackson at receiving such a truly magnificent gift.

The deluded old emperor of Morocco probably never knew that the horses were sold at public auction, or that the lion lived thereafter in an iron-barred room of a menagerie.

Shackling the Flood Devils of the Miami

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sum for the benefits which they are to receive. Thus far there has been almost no difficulty in the collection of these taxes. Indeed, it is shown by the records that the percentage of delinquents is exceedingly small, far smaller in fact than the average number of delinquents on state, county or municipal tax rolls.

The benefit to property is figured on the difference in its value before and after flood protection, and the cost of the works is estimated at about 50 per cent of these benefits. Thus, on an added valuation of \$1,000 the assessment will be \$500 if paid in cash. Five per cent interest is added when the assessment is paid in annual installments over a period of 30 years.

In only one way does it appear that the project falls short and that is in the failure to make provisions for the development of electric energy. Stones which are set in the face of the concrete work of the dams emphasize this by proclaiming the fact that the structures are never to be used for the generation of power.

It seems that during the days when the Conservancy Act was still before the legislature and its fate very doubtful, the favorite argument of the opposition was that public money would build the dams but private interests would use them for power purposes. This threat was probably a back fire inspired by interests which would have been seriously disturbed by the erection of publicly-owned hydroelectric plants, but which did not dare come out openly and oppose the plans for flood protection.

The leaders of the Conservancy movement, fearing for the success of their campaign and probably failing to see the duplicity of the attack, met the charge by pledging the public that, if the laws passed, the dams would never be used for anything except the protection of the valley.

That pledge is unworthy of the spirit which fostered such a mighty undertaking as the Miami Conservancy project. One wonders how a people, who show the vision that the people of the Miami have exhibited in planning for their future safety, could have surrendered such an enormously valuable right as that which lies in the development of their water power. And it is impossible to believe that the time will not soon come when they will awaken to their loss and take steps to bring about an amendment of the act.

When that time comes the public will be able to judge by the identity of those who oppose the amendment just what interests were at work seven years ago.

As the work nears completion every precaution is being used to protect it against sudden floods. The conduits in the base of the dams have been left much larger than they will be when finally finished and other outlets have been prepared for high waters. The Englewood dam at its unfinished end is to be protected by a heavy rolled fill during the fall, winter and spring months. With the memory of the 1913 flood still fresh, the district is taking no chances of a repetition of that disaster and the thoroughness with which this last detail of the work is being watched is symptomatic of the spirit of the entire project.

"It must never happen again," said the people of the valley when the waters of the great flood had receded and the towering dams which will fasten the shackles so skillfully upon the flood waters of the future are the result of that determination; a tribute to the vision of a people who were willing to forget the immediate tomorrow and build for the ages.

A Crisis in the Farm Loan System

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Mr. George W. Norris as Farm Loan Commissioner, and who is the commanding influence in the board, not only from his personality—which is most agreeable—but also as "chief executive officer," is opposed to the conduct of the business of the Federal Land Banks through the intervention of the National Farm Loan Association, as provided in the Farm Loan Act.

He would have loans made to the farmer borrowers through agents selected by the banks, when approved by the board, and require these borrowers to take stock direct in the Federal Land Banks, thus destroying the local associations entirely. Already a bill has been introduced by Congressman Strong, of Kansas, providing for the "voluntary" liquidation of associations, which is a stepping-stone toward carrying out these views. It is said that Judge Lobdell was formerly the president of the state organization of the Mortgage Bankers Association for the state of Kansas.

Ex-Senator Henry F. Hollis, the real author of the Farm Loan Act, but for whose untiring effort and persistent determination no rural credit legislation would have been agreed upon by the Sixty-fourth Congress, in a recent letter to the "National Board of Farm Organizations" at Washington, D. C., says:

"I wish to give my hearty indorsement to the plan of the organization of a union or alliance of Farm Loan Associations, and to urge in the strongest terms

the retention of the present co-operative Farm Loan Associations under the Federal Farm Loan Act.

"The question of organizing local associations of farmers was carefully considered by the various committees and the decision, not only to permit the farmers to organize locally along co-operative lines, but to compel them to do so if they desired the benefits of government assistance, was reached with substantial unanimity in favor of the co-operative plan.

"The Farm Loan Act was the result of exhaustive and expensive personal study of the European co-operative banks and societies. It was intended that the Farm Loan Associations should set an example and serve as a nucleus for further extensive co-operation along the lines of purchasing, selling, insurance, stock raising and standardization of market products. The formation of several thousands of these local loan associations demonstrated the importance of the movement.

"I wish merely to testify that the whole subject was carefully investigated by the committees which worked out the Farm Loan Act, and that the decision was deliberately and intelligently reached.

"Experience under the act merely strengthens my personal belief that the Farm Loan Associations should be continued."

The Farm Loan System is facing a crisis, and is headed for severe reverses, unless its friends intelligently rush to its assistance.